NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

J. C. K. K CC-

LETTERS FROM THE ARMY.

The last arrival from the Rio Grande supplies a deficiency in the previous accounts of the Battle of Monterey, by furnishing a number of letters detailing the operations of that division of the army which was engaged on the east side of the city, under the more immediate command of Gen. TAYLOR. In the absence of the official despatches we copy below a portion of these letters, prefacing them with a more brief and general statement, which was furnished the New Orleans Tropic by two of the officers who took part in the action.

FROM THE NEW ORLEANS TROPIC OF OCTOBER 21.

We are greatly indebted to Lieut. SACKET, of the dragoons CURD, of the artillery, for the following facts. They left Monterey on the 4th, and reached Matamoros or the 8th. Lieut. Cund is a bearer of despatches from the ar-

my to Washington.
On the morning of the 19th General Taylor, with McCullough's company of the Texas Rangers, had advanced very near the town, when several twelve-pounders were opened upon them from the Mexican citadel, which caused General Taylor to return as far as the Walnut Springs, the American camp, about two and a half miles from the city. The rest of the day and the next were occupied with reconnoitring by the engineers, in ascertaining the nature of the fortifications of the city preparatory to the siege. About noon on the 20th, Gen. was ordered with his division of about two thousand men to take the city in rear, and to storm the heights com-manding it, the particulars of which have been published.

On the morning of the 21st, about the time Gen. Worth was gallantly carrying all before him on the other side of the town, Gen. Taylor advanced with his forces on the opposite side, to divert the attention of the enemy from Worth's operations in the rear. His engineers were all actively employed in making the recusadissance, with orders, if an opening offered, to call for troops to make the entrance. He called upon the brigade commanded by Colonel Garland, composed of the third and fourth regiments United States infantry, to lead the attack. Attached to the fourth regiment was the com-pany of volunteers commanded by Captain Cheevers, who be-haved bravely. They passed through a cross fire of two forts, and encountered in the streets of Monterey a destructive and galling fire from barricades in front. Immediately the first in-fantry and the Baltimore battalion were ordered into the city to support the third and fourth regiments, when the whole of the command were ordered to move to the left to avoid the fire of the enemy. They found themselves exposed to a fire equally severe from another barricade. At the same time the Mexicans were firing from every house-top, pouring down upon the assailants a most destructive fire of escopettes and musketry. And this is the point where so many of the Amer-From this point the command moved to where they could fire into the gorge of one of the forts they had passed. At that moment the fort was attacked in front by the Mississippi and Tennessee volunteers. And here it may be mentioned that a company of regulars scaled the walls of a house near the gorge of the fort, and poured a Mexicans within, causing galling fire of musketry upon the em to evacuate the place speedily. This attack of the volunteers and the fire of the regulars caused the evacuation al luded to. While on the approach to the attack of the fort the Tennessee regiment were taken in flank by a shot, by which many of them were killed and wounded. regiment also took an active part in the operations of the day. Too much praise cannot be awarded, both to volunteers and regulars, for their gallantry on this day. The batteries of Captains Bragg and Ridgely were incessantly engaged at this point, as the terrible destruction of horses amply testify; and General Taylor was in the thickest of the fire during the whole time. Where the "shots fell fastest and thickest" there was the undaunted hero of Palo Alta and Resaca de la Palma. So much for the first day, during which time and the preceding night the fort taken possession of was successfully main-tained by Colonel Garland's command and Captain Ridgely's

On the 22d there was little fighting on the east side of the town, that being confined to Gen. Worth's movements on the west, but during the day Col. Garland's command was relieved by Gen. Quitman's brigade, consisting of the Missis sippi and Tennessee volunteers.
On the morning of the 23d Gen. Quitman, seeing that the

On the morning of the 23d Gen. Quitman, seeing that the Mexicans had evacuated a second fort in his rear, promptly took possession of it, when the enemy opened their fires upon him. He immediately repelled the assault, and renewed the attack upon the city. Gen. Taylor at once reinforced Gen. Quitman with his whole command, the foremost of which was the Eastern regiment of mounted Texans, under the command of the unterrified Col. Wood, who, from a Mexican the results. addressed his undaunted troops, calling on them to remember Mier, Goliad, and the murder of Fennin and other patriotic Texans. The Texans then sent up their war cry and rushed onslaught, fighting from house to house with the rifles they had used against the same enemy in the battles of their country, doing fearful and bloody execution throughout the day. And we may here remark that all the troops under Gen. Taylor worked with the energies and fierceness of men rmined to conquer or die, and that the result was bloody reader may appreciate the terrible fierceness of the battle when he is informed that from cleven o'clock in the morning until dark the music of the battle-field was nothing but a continued roaring of artillery, escopettes, musketry, and the unearthly shoutings of the assailants, with the howitzers and mbs that added to the terrible diapason of the day.

On the same night, (that of the 23d,) at 7 o'clock, Gen Worth, from his position, commenced throwing shells into that portion of the town occupied by the enemy. shell fell within twenty feet of the Cathedral, which contained an immense quantity of ammunition, killing a great many of the Mexican cavalry, and which, if it had fall Cathedral, would have destroyed all that portion of the city. At 9 o'clock, probably in consequence of the shells falling all around his residence, which was in that quarter of th town, Gen. Ampudia sent in his letter for a capitulation by Col. Moren, who, from being lost, did not deliver the same until morning. The result was that Ampudia must have passed a very uncomfortable night, as the shower of shells ontinued until morning.

The number of Americans killed and wounded in the siege of Monterey was 560, about 200 of them killed. The Mexicans are known to have lost certainly 800, and probably 1200 in killed and wounded.

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE BALTIMORE SUN.

CAMP NEAR MONTEREY, OCTOBER 6, 1846. I proceed to give you such few items of news as I can furnish, after hunting for it ever since the battle. Before I begin, however, I wish to ask you one or two questions; and first: Is our Government asleep, or have they determined to let old Rough and Ready alone, to fight on his own hook? It really does seem to me that there is great fault somewhere. When we have sugar, we have no coffee; when we have bread, we are out of meat; when we have meat, we have no beans; and a more completely famished and starved set of mer you never saw. The transportation for this army is miserably deficient, and had the Government evinced half the desire to sustain this army as this army has shown itself anxious to win laurels, there would not have been one half the number of discharges and deaths there have been. Will you, therefore, be good enough to give the "powers that be" a gentle hit on

Secondly: A copy of the New Orleans Tropic found its way to the encampment yesterday, and it created an excite-ment I shall only partially attempt to describe. It stated, in so many words, that Gen. Taylor—mind you, the hero of the 8th and 9th of May—was to be superseded, and Maj. Gen. Butler was to receive the appointment to the chief command of this army. I never saw so much excitement in my life. Our company (Capt. Stewart's) met in public meeting, and

called on our officers to know if it was true, and every man of us threatened to leave the army instanter if Old Rough was superseded. They seemed as angry as the men, and, after pledging themselves to us to throw up their commissions if the statement proved true, the whole battalion met in public assembly and unanimously adopted a resolution that they would form a guard of honor to escort the Old Hero to the Rio Grande in the event of his being superseded.

The gallant Tennesseans (the heroes of Monterey) now

caught the excitement, then the Mississippians, and I firmly elieve that the moment the Government attempts this pro-

ceeding the army of occupation will be broken up.

This army has no confidence whatever in Gen. Butler. charge (the second one) was ill timed, injudicious, and ineffectual; and it was during this charge that the immense slaughter of our force, especially on the part of the Tennes-seans, took place. It was made by the orders of Gen. But-ler without orders from Gen Taylor; and I firmly believe that we all would have shared the fate of our lamentel Colonel, (Watson,) and been cut to pieces, had not Gen. Taylor rode a most tremendous fire and ordered us to retire. It was here that our beloved General had his horse shot. However, he escaped, and his escape was and is yet a miracle, fo I think I may safely say that I saw the dust of fifty bullets fly round the hoofs of his horse. Gen. Butler had been wound ed, and a soldier was tying a handkerchief round his leg when Gen. Taylor rode up. They had hard and high words, when Gen. Taylor exclaimed, "Sir, I order you to retire." Gen. T. now turned full towards us, and in a firm clear voice, which was heard by every man, ordered us to retreat to a corn field near by. In one word, Butler has the unanimous consent of the volunteers to return to private life; and, for one, I solemn declare that, although I came here to serve during the war, I will apply for my discharge before I will ever consent to accompany a charge of bayonets which shall be made under the

orders of Major Gen. Butler. I admit him to be a brave man; he led the division in person, and was wounded while at its head; but he lacks prudence, foresight, and other qualities necessary in a commander-in-chief. I again repeat that if our Government should attempt to supersede Gen. Taylor, and to appoint Gen. Butler in his stead, the army of occupation, at least the volunteer portion of it, will be broken up. They (the volunteers) will never consent to serve under any other General. No, not even under Twiggs or Worth, both of whom have at Monterey gained immortal honors. Taylor, some past with his right arm shattered, (it has since been amputated,) and in a few minutes there came our battation at the city of Monterey—an honor which we know belongs to our battalion.

When I saw the flag, notwithstanding the novelty of the whom have at Monterey gained immortal honors. Taylor, and the city of Monterey—an honor which we know belongs to our battalion. whom have at Monterey gained immortal honors. Taylor, or, as we familiarly call him, "Old Zack," is the b'hoy for us. I ask you to be good enough, gentlemen, to let the Government know the real sentiments of the volunteers in this

party, and looked from one end of the battalion to the other to see if I could see any one run. Yes, I felt like running, I must acknowledge, but they all stood like men, and I could not bear the idea to be the first to run, and therefore kept on with the rest. The Tennesseans were about ten yards in our advance, the Mississippians about the same distance in our rear. You will therefore see that I had to "stand up

the rack, fodder or no fodder." At this moment an awful fire was opened on the Tennesse-ans. They fell by scores, but the balance stood like ve-terans. We were fired upon by a cross fire from nine and twelve pounders, and a murderous discharge of small arms rom corners of streets, doors, windows, and tops of houses. By this time Col. Watson was trying to get us ahead of he Tennesseans, (having applied for the advance and received from Gen. Taylor the promise of it,) and, while in the act of giving three cheers, was shot down. He was on our right, some twenty paces ahead of us. I saw him fall, and all apprehension now left me. I made an involuntary effort to get to him to afford him help, but was borne on by the pressure of the mass behind, and willingly yielded to it, impelled by a thirst for revenge that would have carried me through a storm of bullets, or laid me out in Monterey. We were now within fifty yards of the wall, behind which the enemy were ying in perfect security, and at this moment Gen. Taylor rode up in gallant style, accompanied by a young officer Now came the thrilling scene of all. A huge Tennessean sung out, "Silence, men—here comes Old Zack—three cheers for Old Zack!" Three tremendous cheers were now given,

" Heaven's broad arch rang back the sound."

I trembled for his safety, for I expected to see him fall every moment. Great God! I never can forget that sight. The gallant old soldier turned to the young officer who accompanies nim, and received from him a spy-glass, which he applied to his eye, as if to survey the scene around him. There laid at least four hundred men shot down; the General calmly shut up the glass, and returned it to the officer, and then riding still nearer the foe, until he was up even with the Tennesse-ans, gave the order to "retire." I followed him with my till I saw him beyond the danger of the small arms, and then almost involuntarily uttered an ejaculation of thanksgiv-ing to the Almighty that his invaluable life was still preserved

o his country.

Oh! gentlemen, the sight was fearful. The word may be erlike-I cannot help it, it was horridly tearful. man who can contemplate such a scene as four hundred men dead and dying, and not feel deeply, keenly feel, he is mad of sterner stuff than the materials of which I am com-

MONTEREY, (MEXICO,) OCT. 7, 1846. For four or five days past, as I have already informed you we have been on short allowance of food, and have therefore and to resort to smuggling; in other words, some fine Mexican steers have been slaughtered to appease the hunger of ou men. In one case it was detected, and the poor culprit is now in the "guard-house;" but hunger honors no law, and scores have fallen since. Just be good enough to give the Secretary of War a jolt under the fifth rib, and ask him if he wants to kill us all off, for I pledge you my word hunger is producing disease, and that is making more victims than the ullets of the foe.

Our countrymen at home. I am sure, have no idea of ou offerings. I am equally certain that they might have been revented if proper means were employed by those whose busiless it is to see to our wants. It takes a great deal to feed 5,000 men, and the truth of the whole matter may be summed up in these words: Our Government has not sustained Gen

mount he has long since demanded.

I gave you an idea in my last of the excitement which pre illed in camp in regard to General Butler. It received ten mes force yesterday by a report that got out that Gen. Tay lor was about to throw up the command. This was considered as a confirmation of the previous alarm, and during the ed as a confirmation of the previous alarm, and during the whole day clubs of fifteen to twenty men in the different regiments of volunteers might be seen cursing, damning, roaring, and pitching. It was finally quieted at night by an officer assuring them that "Old Zack never would give up the command while he could draw his sword, or until he was ordered to do so by the Government." As I feel pretty confident that the Government dare not recall him, and as I know that the volunteers will never let him expose himself against the enemy's fire, my mind is easy about the matter; but I must con fess I was "pretty considerably" alarmed and excited.

There is also a report here that General Butler is to be sent take Gen. Patterson's place in command of the Rio Grande posts, and that Gen. P. is to be ordered to some active command. But nous verrons, as the patriarch of types would say. It was my intention in this letter to have given you a full command of Company A) will leave here in a few days for Baltimore, and he will furnish you with items. Our loss was nense, at least 900 men killed, wounded, and missing The Mexican loss is not much greater. It is now pretty wel scertained that Gen. Taylor was himself opposed to the ar-nistice which he granted, and only yielded from the fact that nine out of the thirteen officers whom he consulted strenuous-y advised it. I believe, if "Old Rough" (God bless him!) had had his own way, we could have taken the citadel in or ur's time, and with a small loss. There is a report here to-day from Camargo that Canales is playing the devil with s between here and that place. But one hears so many re orts that you cannot tell which is true or false.

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE BALTIMORE AMERICAN.

MONTEREY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1846. I should like to give you a full account of the operations ar army from the time we reached this town until it was forced to capitulate, but have neither the time nor the space to devote to it. I shall therefore only speak of the part that our battalion played, including the actions, thoughts, and reflec-tions of one of its members, your old friend and humble On Monday last, the 21st, (after having been under arms

portion of the previous night, exposed to a heavy rain,) at are safe. James Willia 7 o'clock A. M. we marched from camp with four companies of the 1 stinfantry, and, after an hour's hard marching, we issued "Tell James Shreve" rom a cornfield directly in front of a battery, or rather fort, of me six or seven pieces of artillery, and crowded with infany, which opened on us the moment the head of our column ade its appearance. We were within point blank range, and I. for the first time, heard the whistling of shot. Our was immediately formed in line of battle under this fire, and we were ordered to charge. Forward I went, cheering and waving my sword, and the men came after me gallantly. When within a hundred yards of the trenches I looked back to see who was following, being anxious to know the men. Judge of my astonishment when I beheld the four companies f regulars marching by a flank to the right. I saw Colonel Watson shouting, but as to hearing a command, that was an mpossibility, owing to the deafening roar of the cannon and nusketry. I saw the head of our line changing its direction, ew at once that the point of attack was changed, and ran at the head of my company to intercept the head of the column. I reached just as Col. Watson was dismounting from his horse, which the next moment fell from a shot. The Co-lonel cried out to the men, "Shelter yourselves, men, the best way you can." At this time the battalion was scattered over a space of about an acre, and the men were lying down, the shot in most instances flying over our heads. But the guns were soon depressed, and the shot began to take effect. I was lying close to Colonel Watson, alongside of a hedge, when he jumped up and cried out, " Now's the time, boys : follow me!" I was up and after him in a second, my men following me. We were now in a street or lane, with a few houses on either side, and within a hundred yards of three batteries which completely raked it, in addition to which two twelve-pound guns were planted in the castle on the right, and completely enfiladed the whole distance we had to make. Add to this the thousand musketeers on the housetops and in the barricades at the head of the street up which we advanced, and at every cross street, and you may form some idea of the Is poured upon us. (Bear in mind that the four ing at every step. Cheers, shricks, groans, and words of com-mand added to the din, whilst the roar of the guns was abso-

We had advanced up the street under this awful and fatal tree nearly two hundred yards, when we reached a cross street, at the corner of which all who had succeeded in getting thus far alive halted, as if by mutual consent. I was shaking Col. Watson by the hand, whilst he was complimenting me, when a shower of grape, round, and canister shot came from the corner above, and five officers fell, and I do not know how many privates. Each man sought some place of

apparent shelter. sat down on the ground, with my back to the wall of a ise. On my left were two men torn nearly to pieces. One them was lying flat on his back, with his legs extending rther in the street than mine. Crash came another shower grape, which tore one of his wounded legs nearly off. He reared up and shrieked, and fell back a corpse. I never moved,

scene around me, a thrill of pleasure shot through me, and I felt as if I could die, for I had made up my mind to die; and tinued without the slightest intermission whilst we remained at this memorable corner, which was perhaps for lifteen feels when he smells powder for the first time—I will tell you.

At first I felt as though I should like to have been out of the teers, but the officers sprang to the front in double file. I being

teers, but the officers sprang to the front in double file, I being alongside of Col. Watson.

We advanced, I suppose, about fifty yards, when Col. Garland, of the army, ordered us to retire. We still advanced, and he again ordered us to retire, adding this time, in good order. I now became separated from Col. Watson, and never saw him again. He took the left hand side of the street, and I the right hand, and when I had reached the open field where he had first ordered us to lie down. I was joined by where he had first ordered us to lie down, I was joined by Lieut. Aisquith, who, to my inquiry, answered that he had just left the Colonel, and supposed that he would soon be with us. Seeing no other officer around me, I rallied the battalion (remember that the firing was just as hot and as incessant now as it had been at the first) and led them down to make another attack on the fort, having made up my mind to take it

die in the attempt. or die in the attempt.

Imagine my surprise—a most agreeable one, I confess—to find the fort in our possession, it having been captured by the Mississippi and Tennessee regiments when it turned its fire on us as we charged into the town. I have not the slightest doubt that it was the charge made by the first infantry and our battalion into the city which made the Mexicans retreat from the fort

I was ordered to shelter my men from the fire, and awai urther orders. I took them in the ditch and then clambere over the ramparts to take a look at what was going on. My appearance was greeted with a dozen or so of musket-balls, which accelerated greatly a retrograde movement, and I sa down quietly with ten feet of dirt between me and the enemy's shot. This was the first spot I had been in in which I was out of fire for more than two hours, and I was nearly exhausted. One of my men now came up and reported to me the death of poor Col. Watson, whom he had seen fall from a

musket-shot through the neck.
As well as I can learn, the Colonel, in retiring from the city, inclined a good deal to the left, and became separated from the main body of the battalion; and, in company with Lieutenant Bowie, who remained with him, he met another column advancing to the attack, joined them with the few men he had with him, and fell a few moments afterwards. He met with a gallant soldier's death, his face to the foe. His loss is deplored by all who knew his generosity of heart and chivalry of character. His loss to me, individually, is great, and strife between emigrants from this country and the debut to the battalion it is irreparable. I know not how we will get along without him. We have much, very much to contend against, and have had ever since we left he

all this more anon.

We had been in the ditch for about a quarter of an hour when Capt. Ridgely's battery came up also for shelter; but his appearance was the signal for the castle to open upon us, which killed one of his horses the very first shot, and ed one of my men. We were now ordered to support Captain Bragg's battery, which had taken a position to cut off the Lancers who had sallied out to intercept what they though: was our retreat. We killed five or six of them, and the rest fled

back to the city.

We were again ordered to the fort, to be ready for another attack on the city. Again the castle opened on us, and every shot told, and I never was so glad in my life as when I got into the old ditch. But it was a short-lived gratification, for a regiment of Mexican infantry were firing on Captain Web-ster's battery, and their balls raked the whole fort, ditch, and all. We were then ordered to join the Ohio, Kentucky, and Tennessee troops, which were forming on the plain for ano-

ordered back to the camp by General Twiggs we were constantly under fire, being in open view and fair range of the artillery in the gray castle. I was under first one General and then under another until I became completely worn out, as well as my command, which had remained so faithfully with me. I returned to camp as night approached, wearied in body and mind, but thankful to God for preserving my life through

the perils of the day.

Thus terminated, as far as our battalion was concerned, one of the longest and bloodiest battles ever fought on this continent; and, strange to say, our battalion only lost six killed and twenty wounded. I had about thirty-eight men of my company in the fight, and two were killed and three woundcompany is the fight, and two were killed and three wound-ed; yet every one of those that escaped has told me he did not expect to live through the day, and most of them had their clothes struck by the balls.

I cannot realize that my loss is so small, so completely were my ranks raked by the shot. Above, below, alongside, be-tween legs and arms, every where the balls whistled and howled. The air seemed cut to pieces by the quantity that the artillery hurled at us, and it would be childish to tell you how ed. The air seemed cut to pieces by the quantity that the artillery hurled at us, and it would be childish to tell you how it even so, would it be justifiable by good sense? After her close they came to me, and what and how many escapes I had. Others will hereafter tell you of the first day's fight at Mexico be able it willing to pay. As well might you destroy. account of the storming of this place, but Capt. Owens (who Monterey, and I now tell you that I was in that fight and ex-

my back aches now from writing this on my knees. Of my own company I cannot say enough. I love them. They he died like a true patriot."

A letter from Mr. CALVIN GODDARD, belonging to one of the District companies, dated Monterey, September 27, after anneuncing his own safety, says :

"We had about thirty men killed and wounded in on attalion. Col. Watson was as brave a man as ever lived. Sergeant Truscott had his head shot off by a cannon ball. We have no idea of the loss of the Mexicans, as they carried ancers killed the wounded men whenever they got a chance. "Lieut. Boyle led us like a man and gallant soldier. Capt. Waters is safe. Tell L. Fitzgerald that Thomas is safe. He are safe. James Williams is also safe ; he would have writ-

"Tell James Shreve that Jim Darkey, a negro boy, follow ed Lieut. Boyle through the battle, with his musket. Capt. naugh sends his best respects. Lieut. Bell joins with him. "Tell Mr. J. E. Norris that his brother was struck with a grape shot in the side. Another bullet hit him in the face, t he is walking about ; the latter only knocked the skin off.

ROM THE APALACHICOLA COMMERCIAL ADVERTISER, OCT. 17. TREMENDOUS FIRE.-Yesterday morning our city was nearly laid in ruins through the villany Three houses were fired simultaneously, and at the fourth at-tempt the villain was shot at, and narrowly escaped with his life. The alarm disclosed three buildings wrapped in flames, the dreadful element bursting through fire-proof windows, doors, and roofs, spreading destruction all around. By dint of the greatest exertions on the part of the citizens our

The flames were first discovered in R. J. Floyd's building on Commerce street. A few minutes sufficed to destroy it entirely; communicating then with T. L. Mitchell's large house, (corner of Commerce and Chestnut streets,) it was also swept away, together with the tenements adjoining thence, east, every building between Floyd's and Simmons's corner were levelled to the ground—the whole square gone.

Near the same moment the storehouses of B. Ellison & also swept away, together with the tenements Near the same moment the storehouses of B. Ellison & Co. and E. B. Whitmarsh (on Water street, in another block) were enveloped in flames, and before the dawn of day every house between the bank building (corner of Water and Centre streets) and Green & Connery's store was in smoking ruins. The loss is estimated at from \$75,000 to

The body of ALEXANDER T. HAYS, formerly of Ohio, but for the last eight or nine years a resident of Lexington, Kentucky, was found horribly mutilated in the suburbs of Lexing ton on the morning of the 17th instant. The murderer is companies of regulars were now with us, the one intermin-gled with the other.) Onward we went, men and horses fall-tinct wounds with a bowie-knife or knives, and a pistol shot through his head, the ball entering near the temple and com-ing out at the back of his head. Of these numerous wounds t is supposed that there must have been at least twenty, any which would have caused death. The decea printer by trade, but had been engaged in various pursuits, the last of which was that of a druggist.) He was fifty years of age, and a peaceful, inoffensive man

PUT ON YOUR FLANNELS, -- However some may decry the use of flannels they are great conservators of health. Good physicians have said that few children were affected with sumner complaint last season who wore flannels next their skin Our sudden changes of weather require warm clothing, and when once the winter clothing is put on it should not be changed until the season of warm weather arrives. If by neglect in this particular a cold is taken, it may settle on the lungs and soon ripen into consumption, a disease we may say belonging to our climate. In September, October, and No-vember we experience many sudden changes of the weather, for I was satisfied that one place was as safe as another. Directly opposite to me was my brevet Second Lieutenant Aisquith; on the right hand corner was Lieut. Bowie, also of clothes should be used.—Medical Journal.

COMMUNICATIONS.

A SERIOUS QUESTION.

After the conquest of Mexico what shall be done with her? Forced into the Union? Or will she voluntarily become a member of our Confederacy? The one would be contrary to the free principles of our Governno man there ever thought for a moment that he would get out alive, and most of them did not. The firing still conremained ly as the Mexicans, could not feel themselves free, compelled by military force to unite in a common Government. tend even for the right to withdraw whenever they feel themelves aggrieved by the legislation of Congress, say to this bloody system of making republicans? In short, the most moderate of the State rights party, it is known, advocate the themselves free members of that Union. But, if it were possible to be right, it would be impracticable to hold so large a body of people, spread over such a vast country, with foreign feelings, and of different manners, language, and customs, in Chihuahua or California, so far as the Spanish Mexicans are subjection to the institutions of our country. There would be concerned, because they are not the rightful owners. If com comparatively a small population from the United States to punction is to be felt, let it be reserved for the aboriginal inserve as a ballast to keep steady this crazy ship of State. The natives would have to be disarmed, and a larger standing army placed over them than even that in Ireland. It would present a fine spectacle of a free people! The despotism of Turkey would not be equal to it. What would not even the more liberal monarchies say to this strange specimen of republicanism-of making and keeping a large body of people free by military force ? But look at the expense of the process. It would require a

large military force to keep them in subjection—certainly a

heavy system of taxation at home. Who would submit to it Who would not murmur? Let the American people reflect well upon the fact that no small army could intimidate a wild, rest less, and half-savage people. Revolts and rebellions would be frequent as they were in the Roman colonies-attended, however, with more expense to the whole Confederacy, as contributions could not be levied of the revolting colonies alone, as was done by that ancient people. This state of things might last for many years, perhaps for a half century. It would require a long time to rear a population native and congenial to our institutions, in whom there would be no memory of a murdered and much-injured gallant ancestry. The tale of these wrongs, even if imaginary, would naturally produce disaffection. It would be a source of constant heartburnings scendants of the present people, which must end in an extermination of one or the other. Those of our countrymen that have distinguished themselves in war, as well as their descendants, would become the rulers and officers in every department of the Government. This would not only be claimed and exercised by the conquerors, but also be necessary to keep the people in subjection, as no confidence could be placed in the conquered. What, then, is to become of the present lofty-spirited dignitaries and romantic military men in their armies? Are they to be divested of all office and honor, and expected to become contented and submissive private citizenssimple republicans? The struggles for supreme power for centuries past teach a very different lesson. Will the priesthood of the country give up their present institutions of the church and teach submission to the conquered? What does history say on this subject? Look at Spain and other Catholic countries! What a desperate struggle has been made against the introduction of new creeds by the sword! Although armies The attack was not made, although I was burning to have have invaded them and dethroned for a time their rulers, there venge, and from the time I last left the ditch until we were is not an instance since the days of the Reformers in which the Protestants have made a permanent change of Catholic institutions to their own. Let this be borne in mind by our rulers. In France their temples were defiled-turned into arsenals and stables for horses; their altars thrown down and their images broken to pieces and burnt, but "the Lord seeth!" What is France at this time?

The deep and hidden motive to this Mexican war Heaver knows. How much the spirit of persecution had to do with this enterprise of bloodshed and extermination history will at some day unfold, and the recent result of the popular elections in some degree discloses. Many a devout man cast his suffrage for "the powers that be," who now relents and turns from this scene of carnage with horror and indignation.

The advocates of "annexation" now labor to throw off th blame of the war by imputing it to a want of payment on the part of Mexico of the claims which we hold against her. Were the means of an individual, burn up his pr I have thus given you a hasty and ill-digested account of waste his plantation, to make him willing and better qualified my doings on the 21st. I could fill fifty pages if I were to to pay the claims against him. Would a prudent man, would my doings on the 21st. I could fill fifty pages if I were to give you a detail of the whole week's work which resulted in the capture of this important town; but I will stop short, for my back aches now from writing this on my knees. Of my are we to be paid? By selling it with its remnants of widows, wounded soldiers, and famished citizens? Monarchs have stuck to me through every phase of fortune, and one of them, as he was dying, told me to write to his father and tell him done such things. Will our own omnipotent President do so? Is it not in every way a bad speculation? Will it not cost much more than it will come to. Four or five hundred millions of money, and perhaps even more, to be expended to obtain a small claim. The cost of suit will be many times more than the debt, and the execution returned at last " nulla bona."

The constitutional right to make this war in the manner i which it has been conducted is at least questionable. The framers of our Government inserted in the constitution a clause their men off as fast as they fell. Gen. Taylor sent in to to guard against foreign conquest. The President is forbidden bury our dead, but the Mexicans refused permission. The to draught men to go beyond our own territory. This is clearly expressed. Ye States-Rights' men of the South, who are advocates of strict construction, will you infer by implication acted like a man. Tell John Porter that the two Murphys this important power !-- a power the exercise of which must end in the loss of so many choice spirits and run your Government so largely in debt, making fresh grounds for a high ernment so largely in debt, making fresh grounds for a high will check oxidation upon the body of the plate, but, beautiful tariff—grounds that in 1816 were considered by Mr. Call—as the operation is, I fear the grand difficulty will remain un-HOUN, now so much opposed to discriminating duties, sufficient to warrant a tariff of protection ? ...

Oftentimes, I have no doubt, do all good men think of the much ridiculed opinion of Mr. CLAY in regard to "annexation." The fathers and mothers of slain sons, and the widows of husbands that lie in Mexico a sacrifice to this wild project, feelingly appeal to every philanthropist and patriot, deanding of them, Would they now go for annexation were the question yet to be made?

A Citizen of South Carolina.

FOR THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

However doubtful as to the expediency of a war, when war actually waged by our National Administration, I am mong those who would wish that the mode of conducting it may be such as to cause the least expenditure of blood and reasure which may be consistent with national reputation. Actuated by these sentiments, I humbly hope that the following queries may be deemed worthy of consideration, if not eply, by those who are at the national helm.

What is to be done with Mexico proper if we conquer i Is it to be under military law, as are the portions of Mexican erritory now subdued, giving to the officers of our armie

Should the Mexicans resist with a pertinacity like that di played by the inhabitants of old Spain in opposition to Napoleon, will it not be necessary, in order to preserve any contro which may be attained, to establish fortresses in every part of their country ?

Can it be necessary to insist on the inconsistency of such a state of things with our Declaration of Independence, or with the Constitution of the United States?

Would the possession of the city of Mexico secure to us eaceful control over the nation any more than did that of Moscow or of Madrid secure an analogous result to Napoleon Should we have more comfort and profit in the sovereignty of Mexico than the French had in Spain, or have now Algeria?

Is it not evident that the only portions of the Mexican em pire which can become a part of our Republic are those which, being peopled by the same races, will be willing to become nembers of our Confederacy ? Must not each member of that Confederacy be self-governed, consistently with our constitution, which has endowed our National Government only with certain limited powers, agreeably to which it cannot control any one member more than another ?

Were the Mexicans to humble themselves into the dust, and

Where, then, is the motive for conquest? Even were we to authorize our armies to plunder them, would it pay for the expense of this cruel and wicked procedure? If under these circumstances we are to indulge our passion for the acquisition of territory, not for ourselves only, but for the benefit of not be wiser to raise a regular army, formed upon the admirable model of that which conquered on the Rio Grande, to take possession of such portions of the Mexican territory as What should South Carelina and other States, which con- are thinly peopled with Spanish Mexicans, and which being soon inhabited by a majority of American citizens, will spon taneously enter into and remain in our Union? In that case, would not our hold of the acquired territory become more and more secure from year to year? Were the policy thus re. right to separate from the Union, when they no longer feel commended to be adopted, would not the war on our part be

come defensive in its character, and far less costly? In addition to the above queries, I beg leave to suggest that there should be less repugnance to taking possession of habitants, since they only will be wronged. Moreover, we shall take the sovereignty from those who have shown themselves incapable of exercising that high office. The actual inhabitants would not be dispossessed of their private property, and by becoming citizens of the United States, would be participators in every advantage which would accrue to their nvaders. Europeans would have no reason to be dissatisfied, as we should hold our territorial acquisitions in trust, more for the benefit of their exuberant population than for that of the citizens of the United States.

A TRUE AMERICAN

IRON AND WOODEN STEAMSHIPS.

Comparative view of the relative advantage of constructing Steamships of wood or of iron, in the United States, for ocean navigation.

By Invine Swire LL. D.

From the natural position of the United States, and the pe culiar characteristics of the people, the science of marine ar chitecture, by an inevitable consequence, claims a prominent rank in the pursuits of knowledge; and, being so closely in-terwoven with all the great interests of the country, its cultivation and practical application will continue to be, what it ever has been, a subject of the deepest solicitude. Whether we consider it in relation to the mercantile or the naval marine of the country, it is equally important. The experience of all time is before us, and it remains to be seen how far the genius of the people will discover improvements, and add strength, beauty, velocity, and durability to the naval and mercantile

force of the country.

The introduction of steam as a propelling power, and its gradual but uninterrupted extension, open a new field for sci-entific labor, and stimulate the public mind to bold and un-tried achievements. That there should arise amidst the developments of sanguine minds much fancy and speculation, and theory and costly experiments, upon a theme so new and comprehensive, is just what might be expected. But even the failure of the most flattering anticipations advances the science itself. Our ideas are corrected by being driven from untenable positions to others more sound and practical. The best system is ascertained by experiment, and by experiment chemistry, which has grown up, step by step, by slow but certain advances, until the elementary principles are more ful-ly developed, and their application to the arts and to manu-factures has conferred incalculable benefits upon the family of man. It is worthy of remark that the fact of several iron steamships having been constructed in England, is no ground for concluding, even supposing they succeeded, that it will be equally advantageous to build of iron in the United States. In England iron is cheap, and timber dear. In this country timber is cheap, and iron dear. The first cost of a ship, there-fore, depends not upon the material itself with which it is constructed, but upon the price and facility of obtaining that has terial at the place of building. In this country the cost of an iron built ship is about thirty per cent. more than the cost of iron built ship of the same dimensions. She ought, a wooden built ship of the same dimensions. She ought, therefore, in order to stand upon an equally advantageous footing, in reference to the expense of construction, with rooting, in reference to the expense of construction, with a wooden-built ship, to be kept in repair in a seaworthy condition at thirty per cent. less expense, and to maintain a durability of thirty per cent. longer time, than a wooden-built ship. A short time has elapsed since the first construction of iron steamers for ocean navigation, and, so far, the result of expe-

riment is by no means in favor of their durability, compared with timber-built ships.

The Montezuma, a Mexican iron steamer, constructed at Woodside, opposite Liverpool, in England, was sent to New line was eaten in from 1-16th to 1-8th of an inch, resembling a honey-comb. The cause of this effect is sufficiently obvious ratic acid; and thus forming a powerful solvent, constantly acting upon the iron plates. It may further be observed that iron has a strong affinity for muriatic acid, which rapidly dissolves thin sheets of iron with which it comes in contact, and is forced by attraction and pressure into the cavities of the iron, expelling the globules of air and assuming their place, and thus breaking the strength of the iron just in proportion as

the attraction of aggregation is overcome.

If so great an effect be produced in three years by the so tion of salt water upon the iron plates, and the remaining plates weakened in manner and measure similar to the dry rot in timber, the understanding can find no great difficulty in measuring with tolerable accuracy the durability of the ship. It will be borne in mind that the last stage of consumption far more rapid than the first, because the disease has pene-trated the whole mass, its constitutional vigor is prostrated, and the living thing is already dead.

been brought before the public, and that high expectations of thus rendering it anti-corrosive are indulged. Undoubtedly it remedied. Wherever a hole is perforated for rivets, or screws, or bolts, there the iron plate is already weakened in exact proportion to the number and size of the holes. The muriatic acid is invited, and it begins to feed upon and oxidate the whole ship. There is a mutual attachment, and they rush into each other's arms through a space not larger than a hair. Another important result from the experiments that have een made demands our notice; and that is, the impossibility of rendering a ship constructed of iron plates, rivetted together from two to three hundred feet in length, as the case may be, water-proof. The rivets which fasten the iron plates to each other, or to the iron ribs of the ship, are the bearings which are to sustain the warping and straining of the ship at sea. By continual action, there being no elastic medium between the joinings of the plates, a gradual, though minute opening sion of water is made through ship; and I apprehend this much to be the case if there were no other wearing by the motion of the ship than that upon the rivets. The drawing of the head of a rivet, a screw, or a bolt through a plate, which I have seen, causes a leak no easily detected, and still less easily remedied. This face, I believe, will be confirmed by the experience of all the iron

steamers that have weathered the ocean.
The United States revenue iron cutter, the Lagaré, which I examined when under repairs last year in New York, is a very leaky ship. The openings of her plates, at the bottom of her keel, were at least half an inch, and they extended, more or less, from stem to stern, between each set of plates. Workmen were employed in forcing lead into the openings to stop the leaks, a process which, it appeared to me, would ultimately make the leaks worse than before. A ship constructed of timber is caulked between every streak of planking, from the keel to the upper deck. The aggregate of this caulking, thus distributed, constitutes an elastic body of considerable thickness, which yields imperceptibly to the heaving and rolling of the ship, without opening a seam or admitting water. In case of a leak the ship is easily fresh caulked, and all necessary securits made with great facility. But you can all necessary repairs made with great facility. But you can-not caulk an iron built ship; and, from my own observation, I perceive that oxidation of the iron plates, both within and without the ship, commences the moment they come in con-tact with salt water; and, of course, the chemical laboratory is at work to effect leakages and the ultimate consumption of the ship. The repairs of an iron built ship are far more diffi-cult and expensive and ineffectual than the repairs of a timber built ship. Few people can work in iron; almost every sailor can work up wood. The idea suggested by an honor-able Senator, that iron ships require no repairs, and will last almost forever, is entirely fallacious and founded upon mista-

ken data, or the want of experience.

The formation of lamina, or thin scales upon sheet iron when exposed to the action of salt water, is a natural conse-quence, and become visible, more particularly after having been fresh painted. The oil of the paint loosens the oxidate scale, so that it peels off, leaving its original place upon the plate untouched by the paint, and ready for the repeated action of the muriatic acid. This is generally visible in a few agree to submit as obsequiously as the most dastardly of the provinces of the Roman empire, could our National Govern- to see, is a diminution of the strength of the ship.

ment undertake to legislate for them? Could Congress, like a Roman Senate, send them a despotic Pro-consul? Evidently there could be no other alternative than that of leaving the Mexicans to govern, or rather misgovern themselves.

The effect of temperature in the expansion and dilatation of all bodies is a universal law of nature, and worthy of our consideration in the present inquiry. The same amount of heat has not the same effect on all bodies, inasmuch as liquids expand more than metals, and air form bodies more than either, and under the application of the same quantity of caloric. By the introduction of an intermediate body, that of quicksilver, the only metal that retains a fluid state at the atmospheric temthe only metal that retains a fluid state at the atmospheric temperature, and confining it in a convenient instrument, known as a thermometer, and making that a general standard, we can graduate the relative quantity of caloric in any body, and, of consequence, measure the expansion and contraction of metals when exposed to different degrees of heat and cold, with sufficient accuracy to enable us to lay hold of important results in reference to iron built ships. By the attraction of aggregation, the particles of metals are held together in what is called a solid state, although, philosophically speaking, there is no solidity about it. These particles approximate with infinite nearness, and yet never touch one another. The cavinite nearness, and yet never touch one another. The cavi-ties of the metal are filled with innumerable globules of air, and the application of heat expanding the sir, drives the me-tallic particles asunder in proportion nearly to the quantity of heat applied; so that if the heat, be raised to a very high temperature, the hardest steel that was ever manufactured may, under the action of a blow pipe, be reduced to an impalpable powder, lighter than the atmospheric air, and will float in that medium like the small dust of the balance in the beams of a

ummer's sun.
But our immediate object is with iron only, and to inquire But our immediate object is with iron only, and to inquire how far the general law of expansion and contraction bears upon the matter in hand. It may, however, be observed, that the expansion of metals is not in exact proportion to the movements of heat applied. The strength of cohesion is weakened by every addition of heat, and, of consequence, a less quantity is necessary to overcome less resistance, and, therefore, the same quantity added to high temperature would occasion a greater expansion than the same quantity added to a low temperature. In view of this great and fundamental law of nature, I sometimes fancy in the morning that I hold the mercy of Jehovah in my hand, in the form of a razor. The application of heat only would at once reduce it to a liquid or eriform state in the very act of shaving. It would drop like

water at my feet, or dance away upon the breeze.

A few years ago Dr. Ure, the author of a valuable diction ary upon practical chemistry, then in London, sent a message desiring to see me. I found him engaged in experimental philosophy, and perfecting a very ingenious steam valve, which acted altogether upon the principle of expansion and contraction. The expansion of the metallic arm, connected with the ton. The expansion of the metallic arm, connected with the valve by the heat of the boiler, opened the valve in proportion to the degree of heat, and the refrigeration of the heat again closed it, so that the quantity of steam allowed to escape the safety valve depended entirely upon the temperature of the heat. I have no means at hand of ascertaining exactly what would be the exactly as a proper later than the safety with the control of the safety was a safety what the safety was a safety was a safety what the safety was a safety was a safety what the safety was a safety wa would be the expansion of an iron-built ship, 300 feet long, for the addition of every 20° of heat, nor do I deem it necessary in the present inquiry; seeing the contraction under an equal degree of cold is equal to the expansion under a similar degree of heat, we can easily perceive that every particle of matter in an iron-built ship is in ceaseless motion. is all alive, a sea-serpont, a mighty snake, expanding and compressing its clastic folds at the bidding of an unconquerable and ever-active agent.

IRON STEAM-SHIPS OF WAR. On this point we have no experience. The merchant ma-rine affords but limited and unsatisfactory results. The iron steam-ships of war recently constructed in Great Britain have not had time to demonstrate their properties and present us with experimental facts. We are thrown, therefore, upon the resources of the mind, and the necessity of feeling our way to the most important purposes to which marine architecture can

The objections already suggested in regard to the cost, du-rability, water proof, and expense of repairs of the mercan-tile iron steamship marine, are common to all iron-built ships. But with respect to ships of war, there are other objections, arising from the peculiar nature of their employment. A shot will penetrate the side of an iron-built ship as well as of one built of wood. In that event, the first thing that occurs to the mind is the difficulty of stopping the hole. A wooden plug is effectual in stopping a hole made by a shot penetrating the side of a wooden-built ship; but, in consequence of the shagged nature of an orifice made through an iron plate, it is quite impossible to exclude the water by a wooden plug. The opening may be partially stopped, but in action no time can be allowed to file away the indentations of the orifice and fit it to

receive a plug, and a number of such openings would still admit sufficient water to flood and endanger the ship. Whether the fragments of an iron sheet, carried into the ship by the force of the ball, would be more destructive than ship by the force of the ball, would be more destructive than the splinters of a wooden plank, is a question which cannot be determined by any evidence of which I am aware; but it seems reasonable to suppose that the difference would be just that observable between an iron and a wooden ball. The iron fragments detached from a plate would be nothing less than a volley of shot sweeping through the ship, and doing more execution upon the crew than the shot itself.

Any thing like forcing in a considerable portion of the side of an iron built ship, would, I apprehend, be certain destruction, as no adequate means of repair would be had at sea.

tion, as no adequate means of repair would be had at sea.

The ordinary means of repairing a wooden built ship under such circumstances would utterly fail, and she must be left to the mighty ingushing of waters that would soon engulph Mexico be able it willing to pay. As well might you destroy found that between wind and water there was a streak from ship too uncertain, and the advantages too problematical, to steamships of war in the United States.

Since the foregoing remarks were written, the steamer Britannia has brought to our aid, and in confirmation of the conclusion to which we had come, most important information, under the head of Portsmouth, 'August 14th:

"Some remarkable results have been produced by the ex-perimental shot practice from the Excellent on the iron steam-er Ruby, and it is expected the Admiralty will, in conreer Ruby, and it is expected the Admiralty will, in conrequence, stop the building of iron and other vessels for the present. The shots which hit the Ruby not only penetrated the side first struck, but in some instances passed through the other side, carrying with it whole plates of iron. In action this would risk the total loss of the vessel, for on heeling over to leeward, such a body of water must rush in that nothing would prevent her sinking with all on board.

"A representation of this important circumstance, arising from the recent trials, has been made to the Admiralty; and, should further experimental firing prove that scrious risk will be occasioned to iron vessels of war when exposed to the chance of being struck by heavy shot, it is doubtful if the Board will not abolish them as men of war."

From the fact that the result of these experiments were re-

From the fact that the result of these experiments were re

ported to the Admirality, we may infer that they were made by its orders; and, from the plain straight-forward details presented to the public, there does not appear any ground to doubt their correctness. If they do not go far enough entirely to settle the question, they do go far enough to settle the impolicy of building iron steamships of war, with a weight of evidence so preponderating against their utility.

The silent process of change in the British Government has een going on for years, and is accelerating its speed with ach successive change. We are becoming republicanized, each successive change. a word not necessarily inconsistent with monarchic loyalty. The executive is improving in organization and aptitude; the people are improving in the use of the representative legislature; the character, operation, and organization of that body are becoming better understood and practically perfected. All these things are guaranties that our future progress will be smooth and equable—not affected by intermitting revolutionary jerks. Men are so engrossed in these practical details that even such gentle psssages of arms as that between Lord Lyndhurst and Lord George Bentinck excite but a languist interest, hurst and Lord George Bentinck excite but a langual interest. The scuille between the polished Valentine and rugged Orson of the coart of the political King Pepin is contemplated with the sense transient delight as that of their counterparts in the modrama.—Tail's Magazine.

A Good HIT AT DUMAS .- An English journal says Alex-A Good HIT AT DUMAS.—An English journal say a lexandre Dumas maintains his claims to eminence in spioning
out a book thus: "How are you?" so in general runs his
commencement of conversations—"How are you?" "Quite
well." "Quite?" "Quite." "You are serious?" "I
am." "Pon your honor?" "Pon my honor." "Ah!
you are quite well?" "I am." "Perfectly well?" "Perfectly." "Haven't been ill?" "No." "Haven't had the doctor?" "No." "The toothache?" "No."

The hit is not only good but true; and it belongs to many

of the French novelists and romancers of the day. The works of Dumas, Sue, Soullie, Scribe and the rest might be abridged fifty per cent. with positive advantage. The evil srises, doubtless, from the practice of the French publishers, of paying by the volume. Thus we are now told that Scribe's Piquillo Alliaga, originally designed to be completed in three vo-lumes, is already extended to seven, with no appearance of an approaching close—the publisher having agreed to pay eight thousand francs per volume.—Com. Advertiser.

Don't BE TOO PARTICULAR. - An Irishman once dieamst hat he visited the Lord Mayor of London, who treated him with the greatest hospitality, and asked him if he wouldn't "take a little su'thin'." He replied that he wouldn't mind a "take a little su'thin." He replied that he wouldn't inind a little whiskey punch. "Hot or cold ?" inquired his lordship. His guest preferred it warm; but, while the Lord Mayor was out heating the water, the Irishman awoke from his delicious slumber. "Och!" cried he, comprehending what a fool he was to await for hot punch during the precarious tenure of a dream, "how I wish I'd said cowld!"

FOREIGN STRAWBERRIES.—A vessel named the Hannah, which has just arrived at the port of Hull, from Memel, with a cargo of wood goods, had on board sixteen casks of strawberries, the growth or produce of Prussia. This is a novel upon the peated acordinate of importation, and whether with reference to the place of growth or the very late period of the season for the supply of the article, is as singular and remarkable an importation as

[Liverpool paper, Sept. 22.